

## **ADMISSION OF NON-RESIDENT TUITION STUDENTS**

### **Policy:**

It is the policy of the Dover School District to assure that non-resident students are admitted to Dover School, when space is available, in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations governing tuition payment and non discrimination.

### **Implementation:**

1. Tuition: By February 1 st of each year, the Dover School Board of Directors shall establish non-resident tuition rates for Preschool through sixth grade at the Dover School for the next school year. Under no circumstances will Dover accept non-resident students after grade six. Separate tuition rates may be established for students who are eligible to participate in special education programs. Tuition rates will be established in accord with Chapter 21 of Title 16 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, and regulations of the State Board of Education.

2. Criteria for Admission: No non-resident will be denied admission as a tuition student if the reason for denial is that the student is disabled as defined in section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended or that the student is in need of special education services. Nor will any child be denied admission on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), ancestry, national origin, place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, or marital status.

Subject to the non discrimination requirements above, a non-resident who applies for admission as a tuition student shall be admitted if space is available and, if the student has previously attended school, the student is in good standing at the school or schools most recently attended.

Good standing shall be demonstrated when the applicant shows:

- That he/she has not been legally dismissed or suspended for more than ten days during the preceding twelve months for disciplinary reasons, and
- That he/she is making satisfactory progress toward the completion of an approved school or home study program, and
- That his/her school attendance record presents a reasonable likelihood that any existing attendance requirements of this School District will be met.

A non-resident who is unable to provide evidence of good standing may be admitted as a non-resident tuition student if it is the determination of the Dover School Administration, based on information presented by the non-resident, that there is a reasonable likelihood that the applicant will benefit from and succeed in the programs offered by Dover School,

### **Appeal:**

A non-resident applicant for admission as a tuition student may appeal the Administration's denial of his or her application by submitting a written request to appeal to the Dover School Board of Director's within ten days of the denial. The Board will provide an opportunity for the applicant and/or his or her parent or guardian to discuss the request not to uphold the decision of the Administration. The Board will render a decision within 30 days of the request to appeal.

### **Payment of Tuition:**

Tuition for non-resident students shall be payable at any time prior to enrollment in one payment by the sending school district, individual or family unless prior arrangements have been made with the Dover Board of School Directors. When a student enrolls after the beginning of a semester, tuition for the student will be

pro rated accordingly and will be payable immediately.

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## **TUITION PAYMENT POLICY**

### **Policy:**

The Dover School District will pay tuition for students attending grades 7-12 in accordance with state law and the criteria outlined below.

### **Implementation:**

1. Tuition will be paid to schools, in no less than two installments the first no earlier than October 1st and the second no earlier than January 1st, attended by legal pupils who are residents of the Dover School District as defined by 16 V.S.A. § 1075 and this Board's policy on Admission of Resident Students.

2. Tuition will be paid only to schools approved in accordance with regulations set forth by the Vermont State Board of Education for the receipt of public tuition payments. However, the Board will make independent determinations as to the eligibility of schools for tuition payments based on religious affiliation in order to comply with federal and state constitutional provisions and applicable court decisions, and will not rely solely on State Board approval for this purpose.

3. Tuition will only be paid to one school per year unless the Dover School Board of Directors has granted prior approval. Tuition payments will be made as follows:

- To any Vermont public school according to that school's annual published tuition rate.

- To any approved independent school at the allowable private school tuition level determined annually by the state and/or the voters of the Town of Dover. - Tuition payments will be made to approved receiving schools when preceded by a written application from the student and/or his or her parent or guardian. The application must be made prior to September 1st. Requests for retroactive payments will not be granted unless received by Dover School Board of Directors by October 1st of the school year immediately following the year retroactive payment is sought.

- If an eligible pupil becomes a resident after October 1st, an application for tuition will be considered by the Board at its first special or regular meeting following receipt of the application and, if approved, payments will be prorated from the date of the pupil's enrollment to the end of the then current school year.

- All tuition payments will be made directly to approved schools attended by qualified pupils.

4. If the Board denies tuition assistance for a student, written notification of the denial shall be sent to the student if over the age of majority, or the parent or legal guardian of a minor student, by the Administrator or his or her designee within 10 days of the decision.

5. The Dover School Board of Directors decision may be appealed to the State Board of Education.

### **V.S.A. 16 § 824. High school tuition**

(a) Tuition for high school pupils shall be paid by the school district in which the pupil is a resident.

(b) Except as otherwise provided for technical students, the district shall pay the full tuition charged its pupils attending a public high school in Vermont or an adjoining state, or a public or independent school in Vermont functioning as an approved area technical center, or an independent school meeting school quality standards. However, if a payment made to a public high school or an independent school meeting school quality standards is three percent more or less than the calculated net cost per secondary pupil in average daily membership in the receiving school district for the year of attendance then the district shall be reimbursed, credited or refunded pursuant to section 836 of this title, unless otherwise agreed to by the boards of both the receiving and sending districts or independent schools.

(c) For students in grades 7 and 8, the district shall pay an amount not to exceed the average announced tuition of Vermont union high schools for students in grades 7 and 8 for the year of attendance for its pupils enrolled in an approved independent school not functioning as a Vermont area technical center, or any higher amount approved by the electorate at an annual or special meeting warned for that purpose. For students in grades 9-12, the district shall pay an amount not to exceed the average announced tuition of Vermont union high schools for students in grades 9-12 for the year of attendance for its pupils enrolled in an approved independent school not functioning as a Vermont area technical center, or any higher amount approved by the electorate at an annual or special meeting warned for that purpose.

Added 1969, No. 298 (Adj. Sess.), § 55; amended 1971, No. 52, § 5, eff. April 14, 1971; 1975, N § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1976; 1983, No. 247 (Adj. Sess.), § 3; 1991, No. 24, § 3; 1991, No. 24, § 3; 1991, No. 204 (Adj. Sess.), § 7; 1995, No. 34, § 2; 1997, No. 60, § 8, eff. June 26, 1997; 1997, No. 71 (Adj. Sess.), § 86, eff. March 11, 1998; No. 138 (Adj. Sess.), § 21; 2001, No. 8, § 9.